

The HIRANUMA Cabinet fails to give any freshness or impression in its Course of being formed.

Excerpts from the TOKYO ASAKI-SHIMBUN dated 6th, January 1939 (14th year of Showa)

Baron HIRANUMA received the baton from Prince KONOYE:

Inasmuch as the preparations to organize the interchanging KONOYE-HIRANUMA Cabinet had been set on since late last year in compliance with the basic principle to follow the fundamental national policy established by the KONOYE Cabinet in order to meet the emergency situation at home and abroad, no great changes for the better were to be seen in the whole cast of the new Cabinet.

Thus as Baron HIRANUMA had chosen his Cabinet members in accordance with the basic policy as stated above, every possible member of the KONOYE Cabinet was made to remain in their offices as much as the circumstances admitted. Consequently, the new Cabinet retained seven posts to be occupied by former ministers, Foreign Minister ARITA, War Minister ITAGAKI, Navy Minister YONAI, Justice Minister SHIONO, Education Minister ARAKI, Welfare Minister KIDO and Overseas Affairs Minister HATTA.

昭和十四年一月五日東京朝日新聞よりの抜粋

稍新鮮味を缺く

平沼内閣の成立経過

近衛公から平沼男へ――近衛内閣によつて確立された内外非常時に對
応する國策の根本方針を踏襲するとの原則に立つて平沼近衛交流内閣
を作り上げようとの方針の下に昨年暮から下準備に着手されてゐたと
けに打揃つた新内閣の顔面を見るとそれ丈に大した春り榮えがしない
さて平沼男が右の根本方針に従つて内閣全體に臨んだので近衛内閣の
内閣で事情の許すものは最大限留任せしめることとなり前内閣の有田
外相、板垣陸相、米内海相、鹽野法相、荒木文相、木戸厚相、八田哲
相の七名を新内閣に留めてゐる。――